



How to use Mask Brushes (Photoshop)

If you're anything like we were when we started out, then you'll have seen Mask Brushes but not 100% sure how to use them. This tutorial will teach you how it's done. Before you get started you'll need some mask brushes installed on your computer. We're using one by [Mutsie's Brushes](#) which can be found on [Livejournal](#).

This is what we'll be making:



- The first thing we need to do is load Photoshop and create a new document measuring 100x100 pixels. As the most commonly used image resolution on the internet is 72 pixels per inch that is what we're going to use here.

- If you're going to use a photo on your graphic then the next thing you'll need to do is open it and copy the contents to your 100x100 icon. If the image is too big then use the boxes at the corners of the image to resize it. If you also want to apply other things to your image such as greyscale then now is the time to do it. Mask brushes can also look nice with a coloured gradient or a texture in the background instead of a photograph.

- Once you are happy with the background it's time to add a Fill Layer. Go to Layer > New Fill Layer > Solid Colour. A box will now appear asking you to make a colour choice, for this tutorial we have used white (#ffffff).

- Now we need to add the vector mask. At the bottom of the layers toolbar there is a grey rectangle with a white circle inside. Click this button.

- Another white square will appear next to your white fill layer in the layers panel. Click the second box and add the brush to our icon in black (#000000).

- And that's all there is to it.

If you have any questions about this tutorial please do not hesitate to email us at designers@coldwatermorninggraphics.com.